

Message

From:

This Week @ EPA [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7A2F56A248E647F0BD8A89E90EC7AFBC-EPA NEWS]

Sent:

10/22/2018 7:16:33 PM

To:

This Week @ EPA [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7a2f56A248E647F0BD8A89E90EC7AFBC-EPA News]

Subject:

This Week @ EPA - October 22, 2018



This Week @ EPA

October 22, 2018

Banner photograph taken by Paymon

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Hot Topics

EPA highlights work to reduce lead exposure

In honor of National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week, EPA released "[Protecting Children from Lead Exposures](#)" to highlight some of the work being worked on across the various program and regional offices.

The agency continues to aggressively address lead issues across America, working with communities and partners to further identify and reduce lead exposure, especially for children who are most vulnerable to lead poisoning.

"Reducing lead exposure, particularly among children, is a top priority for EPA," said EPA Acting Administrator Andrew Wheeler. "We are completing several important actions to combat lead poisoning, such as publishing the new joint federal lead strategy, strengthening standards, and overhauling the lead and copper rule for the first time in over two decades. Today, we are releasing a new document, [Protecting Children from Lead Exposures](#), that will increase public awareness of the EPA programs and grants available to reduce lead exposure."

To learn more, please see the [press release](#).

Reminder: Don't let time run out before you get your new EPASS badge

All EPA personnel **must** have a new EPASS badge by Dec. 31; the new EPASS badges say "EPA". After this date, your existing badge will no longer provide building access.

After receiving an email notifying you to get enrolled for a new badge, don't wait. Follow the steps below to receive your EPASS badge.

- Make an appointment at your local badging office, or visit one of the 200 [USAccess enrollment sites](#) near your work or home.
- Bring two forms of ID with you to your appointment (driver's license and current EPASS badge are acceptable).
- You will be notified when your badge is ready and directed where to pick it up.

If you have any questions contact SmartCard@epa.gov or your local badging office.

TSP webinars in late October, early November

The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board sponsors several **free** Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) webinars during October and November. Registration is required for all sessions. TSP Training and Liaison Specialist Randy Urban will lead these sessions.

- **Topic:** TSP Post-Service Withdrawals
Date/Time: Wednesday, Oct. 31, 10a.m. EDT
- **Topic:** TSP Post-Service Withdrawals
Date/Time: Wednesday, Oct. 31, 1 p.m. EDT
- **Topic:** Intro to TSP
Date/Time: Thursday, Nov. 1, 10 a.m. EDT
- **Topic:** Intro to TSP
Date/Time: Thursday, Nov. 1, 1 p.m. EDT

Registration Instructions:

1. Select the hyperlink for the webinar topic that you want to register for.
2. Click "Register."
3. Enter the registration password: TSPweb
4. On the registration form, enter your information and then click "Submit."
5. Once the host approves your registration, you will receive a confirmation email message with instructions on how

For assistance, please contact webinars TSP at webinars@tsp.gov.

Greenhouse gas emission data now available

EPA recently released 2017 greenhouse gas (GHG) data collected under the EPA's [Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program](#), showing

emissions reported by large facilities decreased by 2.7 percent from 2016 to 2017.

As directed by Congress, EPA collects annual, facility-level emissions data from major industrial sources, including power plants, refining, iron mills, steel mills, and landfills. EPA's Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program also collects data from upstream fossil fuel extraction. This is the seventh year of full data collection for most sectors under the program, and more than 8,000 large facilities reported 2017 data. Below are some highlights about the data:

- Reported emissions from large power plants declined 4.5 percent since 2016 and 19.7 percent since 2011.
- Reported emissions from petroleum and natural gas systems increased 1.5 percent compared to 2016. Reported emissions from the oil and gas sector were comparable, as the sector began reporting emissions from new sources starting in 2016.
- Reported emissions from other large sources in the industrial and wastes sectors were mostly unchanged from 2016.

Read the [press release](#) to see more highlights.

New contract for sign language interpreting and captioning services

EPA awarded a new contract for sign language interpreting and Communication Access Real-Time Translation (CART)/captioning Interpreting. The Office of Human Resources (OHR) centrally manages sign language interpreting and CART/captioning services hearing employees at EPA headquarters and for use by any headquarters program office to support internal or public events nationwide.

Regional offices can use the contract, which was competed and awarded as a blanket purchase agreement (BPA No. 68HEOH18) to support their employees and to support their internal and public events at their discretion and at their own costs. However, the use of the contract by regional offices is not mandatory.

Access Interpreting offers the following services as part of the BPA:

- Basic sign language.

- Scientific sign language.

- Video remote interpreting.
- Computer access real-time translation (on-site and remote).

Additional information on the new sign language interpreting and CART/captioning contract can be found on the EPA [Interpreter in OHR Interpreting mailbox at \[interpretingservices@epa.gov\]\(mailto:interpretingservices@epa.gov\)](#).

ELMS Update

Why are we here?

The Office of Continuous Improvement (OCI) invites you to consider what author Ken Miller writes in his book, "We Don't Make Widgets." He says, "There are three myths that keep government from radically improving: the belief we don't make widgets; we don't have customers; and we're not here to make a profit."

Those are some big statements! What does that actually mean?

Over the coming months, OCI will dive into these statements as they relate to EPA's Lean Management System (ELMS).

We call it "Lean" because this system is about shedding operational waste, not people, and giving us the organizational physique we want. We call it a "system" because multiple, interconnected levels of support are needed to keep the ELMS structure sustainable. ELMS holds a philosophy that has its roots in America's Ford Motor Company to Japan's Toyota Motor Corporation that says it is the people who are our best resource.

OCI is here to challenge, support, and celebrate your best. We look forward to continuing the conversation with you! Feel free to submit your questions through our [feedback box](#).



Key Dates

Combined Fede


Click on each event below to get more details.

CFC cause of the week: eradication

Click on the "Add to Calendar" button to add an event to your Outlook calendar.
If you see a log-in screen, please click on your EPA email, or if prompted, enter your email and network password.

In 2016, 12.7 percent of Americans

This Week:


Oct. 23: CFC Kick-off  [ADD TO CALENDAR](#)


Oct. 24: Webinar: Educational Seminar on the Federal Drug Free Workplace Program

 [ADD TO CALENDAR](#)


Oct. 25: Advanced Accessibility for PDFs  [ADD TO CALENDAR](#)


Oct. 25: Conversation with Breast Cancer Survivor, Dolores Miller  [ADD TO CALENDAR](#)


Oct. 25: Wear Pink Day in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month  [ADD TO CALENDAR](#)


Oct. 27: National Drug Take Back Day  [ADD TO CALENDAR](#)


Coming soon:


Oct. 31: Webinar: TSP Post-Service Withdrawals (Session 1 of 2)  [ADD TO CALENDAR](#)

Oct. 31: Webinar: TSP Post-Service Withdrawals (Session 2 of 2)  [ADD TO CALENDAR](#)

Nov. 1: ELMS Overview  [ADD TO CALENDAR](#)

Nov. 1: Webinar: Intro to TSP (Session 1 of 2)  [ADD TO CALENDAR](#)

Nov. 1: Webinar: Intro to TSP (Session 2 of 2)  [ADD TO CALENDAR](#)

Dec. 31: Get Your New EPASS Badge Deadline  [ADD TO CALENDAR](#)

poverty, including 15.3 million children. The barometer for poverty is very low: more than 15 million people live off less than \$1.90 a day. Contractors can go a long way in making a difference. For example:

- \$5 provides 25 meals for a family
- \$35 creates a new resume
- \$100 buys one toilet, two hand sanitizers, and support housing development in the United States.

For information on how to donate to the cause above, visit the [CFC intranet](#).

Health & Wellness

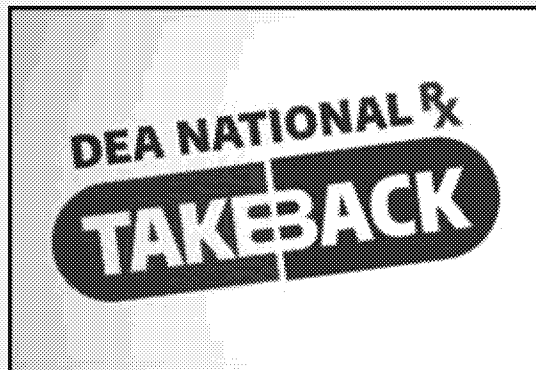
Safely dispose of prescription drugs

According to the [Drug Enforcement Administration](#), unused medications pose the risk for accidental ingestion, misuse, and abuse with approximately 6.4 million Americans abusing controlled pharmaceutical substances. Safe disposal of expired, unwanted, or unused prescription drugs and medicines can help prevent prescription drug abuse, poisoning of children or pets, health problems related to improper medicinal use, and environmental consequences.

To safely dispose of prescription drugs:

- Take unwanted, expired, or unused prescription drugs to a prescription drug take-back program during [National Drug Take-Back Day](#) or a year-round, authorized prescription drug collector.
 - Check with your health unit for EPA events. For example, headquarters health units will hold take-back events on Wednesday, Oct. 24.
 - On [EPA Express](#), you will find the headquarters' events, under the Upcoming Events section. You will need to scroll down to find this one.
- Follow specific instructions on prescription drug labels.

For more information, visit the [Prescription Drug Disposal](#) page on the EPA intranet.



IT Corner

Excel 2016: pivot tables

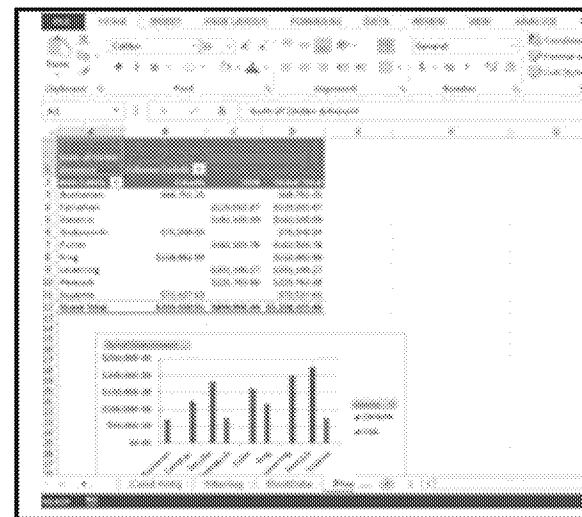
If you need to analyze a data set, Excel is the perfect tool. Need to spruce up your next big presentation for your boss? Add a pivot table and watch your manager

To create a pivot table:

1. Highlight the data source (i.e., the range of cells that contains the data you want to analyze).
2. Select the Insert tab, and then **Recommended Pivot Tables**.
3. When the **Choose Data Source** dialog appears, select the data source.

You can use a pivot table to calculate, summarize, and analyze data. It can also be used to see comparisons, patterns, and trends in your data.

Looking for additional Excel training? Check out [EPA](#).



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